



News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ECI Celebrates 10 Years Of Cognitive Behavioral Program Success

Friday, November 7 at 11 a.m.

TOWSON, MD (November 6, 2008)---Ten years ago, Maryland's largest prison embarked upon an ambitious plan to change inmate behavior with an alternative to traditional correctional programming using the principals of cognitive therapy. That plan has changed the lives of hundreds of inmates. On Friday, November 7 at 11 a.m., Eastern Correctional Institution (ECI) will celebrate a decade of success for the Cognitive Behavioral Program.

The program consists of five phases of restructuring thinking patterns in order to change behavioral responses. The innovative approach is now practiced in all Maryland prisons thanks to the success credited to the staff at ECI.

On Friday, November 7, ECI will celebrate ten years of Cognitive Behavioral Program success with a special ceremony. Participants will receive a letter of accomplishment after completing the first four phases of the program, and move toward becoming mentors (the fifth phase). The program's ten years of success will be highlighted with special honors to the all-volunteer staff, including some from years past.

Media is welcome to attend. Please contact Michael Miller directly at 410 845-4201.

ECI is the state's largest prison, with more than 3,300 inmates. It is located off Revells Neck Road and U.S. 13 in Westover. The facility is under the leadership of Warden Kathleen Green; Assistant Warden Ronald Dryden; Assistant Warden Mary Cooper; Security Chief Michael King; and Annex Facility Administrator Robert Hanke.

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